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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Information Branch  
821 Market Street, Room 615  
San Francisco 3, California

In cooperation with the  
Federal-State Market News Service

#### WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending March 5, 1948)

SAN FRANCISCO, March 2--- "Best Buy" vegetables this week include cabbage at unchanged prices and lettuce at considerably lower prices.

Cauliflower has gone up in price, so that it's now classed as a "fair buy" along with broccoli, celery (slightly lower), peppers, spinach, and mushrooms.

Prices are gradually coming down on carrots, squash, and heavier supplies of asparagus.

Artichokes are still high, and tomatoes are slightly higher this week.

Onions and potatoes are practically unchanged from last week.

Apples, especially California Newtowns, and small oranges continue to head the list of "best buys" in fruits.

Grapefruit and pears remain in the "fair buy" class.

Avocados are still high.

MORE



Meat has been in more demand this past week. Otherwise, there's no great change. Prices have been running about the same, with the exception of a \$1.00 to \$2.00 hike on fresh pork loins. Supplies of beef have been made up mostly of Commercial and Good grades of steer and heifer beef. There has been a fairly liberal daily carry-over in fed lamb supplies of largely Good and Choice grades. Liberal amounts of fresh pork cuts have sold under an improved demand, and smoked hams and bacon have sold fairly well. Supplies of calf and veal have been barely equal to demand, which has been rather broad for Good and Choice grades.

Butter prices have dropped 3 to 5 cents from a week ago. Grade A (92 Score) is quoted 5 cents lower at 80 cents per pound; Grade B (90 Score) is down 3 cents at 79 cents. Retail sales have responded to the lower prices. Demand continues good.

Egg prices are up 2 cents on all Grade "A" eggs and 1-cent on Grade "B." Cold, unfavorable weather has retarded production somewhat. But present supplies are adequate for demand. Quotations on the wholesale market are: Grade "A" Large 52-53½ cents per dozen, Mediums 50-51½ cents, Smalls 45-46½ cents, and Grade "B" Large 49-50½ cents.

Generally, supplies of poultry are adequate. In the case of colored fryers and roasters, a rather active demand has boosted prices, with colored fryers up 1 to 2 cents per pound on both live and dressed weights, and colored roasters 3 cents per pound higher on live weights and 2 cents higher on dressed weights. All other classes are unchanged in price from last week.

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